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# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

<b>Seventh Session</b>
<b>Rome, 19 - 23 March 2012</b>
<b>Report by the Chairperson of the 6th Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)</b>
<b>Agenda item 6 of the Provisional Agenda</b>

## I. Introduction

1. Globalization has created many opportunities and challenges for farmers, foresters, plant health officials, and others involved in or concerned with food production and plant protection issues. New and changing patterns associated with international trade, climate and demographics are expected to effect the global distribution of plant pests, thus creating new threats to food security, agricultural and rural communities, plant biodiversity, natural habitats and ecosystems around the world. (IPPC Strategic framework 2012–2019).

2. Detailed activities of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) and the IPPC Secretariat can be found in the various reports provided to your Commission. The following is my short overview and update on the key issues:

- 1) **IPPC's 60th Anniversary:** For the past six decades, the IPPC has become the core international treaty that aims to protect the cultivated, uncultivated managed, as well as uncultivated unmanaged plants, from the introduction and spread of pests. Therefore, it is appropriate to celebrate this occasion and we should be congratulated for the important work we have done, and are continuing to do. At the same time, it is important to remind all of the 177 contracting member countries to the IPPC of their continuing duty to protect global plant resources from pests while facilitating trade in plants and plant products and guaranteeing food security.
- 2) **Raising the profile of the IPPC helps to promote the IPPC internationally:** CPM has encouraged, and should continue to do so, all bodies, the Secretariat and working groups to take those actions that will contribute to a better presentation of IPPC to the world. Consequently, the Bureau, with the support of the SPTA, has been developing strategies that reflect the mission of the IPPC to protect plant resources and biodiversity, to ensure food

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security, and to support the safe expansion of global trade. The secretariat has also increased its cooperation with relevant regional and international organizations in an effort to create synergies and avoid overlaps in global phytosanitary activities.

- 3) **IPPC strategic framework and strategic plans:** The proposed IPPC strategic framework represents the continuing development of the IPPC as the primary organization in the effort to provide global food security, a protected environment, sustainable trade and economic growth and a source of valuable information in support of capacity development in phytosanitary matters. The framework also provides information on the importance of the IPPC in the context of the work of FAO strategic objectives. These new strategic objectives would replace the functional work areas (i.e. standards setting, information exchange, implementation etc.) of the previous years. In addition, other strategic plans have been or are being developed to support the framework, including the capacity development strategic plan, a communications strategic plan, and a resource mobilization strategic plan.

I would like to note, as I did during CPM-6, however, that some members are still not actively engaged in the IPPC and I implore all members to participate, including fulfilling their reporting obligations on the IPP.

- 4) **Gratitude to supporting members:** Against the backdrop of the global financial crisis, as representatives of national plant protection organizations, we know that even though financial support for phytosanitary efforts might be decreasing, the risks to plant health are increasing. We, as a global organization, must not give up on our efforts which touch most daily activities. As a result of some extra budgetary resources, both funding and in-kind contributions, we will be able to work on technical panels which had been put on hold in 2011.

In this regard, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all who have contributed to the success of the past year, including Australia for contributions for standard setting, the United States, for its contributions of Associate Professional Officers (APOs), in-kind staff and resources, and financial assistance and staff to the IPPC Online Comment System (OCS), which I would add is being closely reviewed for possible adoption by other organizations. Japan, for financial contributions for hiring a Consultant for the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT) and for In-Kind contributions of two full-time staff members for six months each, to Switzerland, for the intent to provide a three-year financial commitment, and to the European Union for its sustained support over time to the IPPC.

- 5) **Improved situation of IPPC secretariat staff:** Secretariat staff resources remain stretched and the funding situation for the immediate future remains bleak. Nevertheless, the hiring of a new Coordinator, and commitments of in-kind support from France and Japan, will help to improve somewhat the operations within the Secretariat.

Last but not least, I would like to thank everyone in the Bureau for their hard work over the past year. My thanks are also extended to everyone in the Secretariat for their work and dedication to the IPPC. We are looking forward to a successful work program in 2012.

Respectfully submitted

**Mohammad R. KATBEH BADER**

Chairperson

Commission on Phytosanitary Measures

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